

IN THE DRAWINGS

Applicant proposes to add new Figs. 7, 8A and 8B in accordance with the accompanying NEW SHEET.

Applicant further proposes to amend Fig. 4 in accordance with the accompanying ANNOTATED SHEETS SHOWING CHANGES. It should be noted that the ANNOTATED SHEETS reflect the additional drawing sheet.

Enclosed herewith are REPLACEMENT SHEETS incorporating the above changes.

REMARKS

The drawings have been amended to indicate "I1" and "I5" in Fig. 4. In addition, new Fig. 7 has been added to show sub-mark and sub-space regions being magnetized in opposite directions having lengths L1 and L2, respectively. Applicant submits that this is not new matter in that the subject matter of Fig. 7 appears in the cited Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-260079. Furthermore, new Figs. 8A and 8B have been added to show the varying of the lengths of the sub-mark and sub-space regions, which is described in the specification as filed on page 9, lines 7-19.

Applicant believes that new Fig. 7 shows the claim limitation "one sub-mark portion of a predetermined first length magnetized in a first direction substantially perpendicular to a recording surface of said recording medium and by having at least one adjacent sub-space portion of a predetermined second length magnetized in a second direction opposite to said first direction". Applicant further believes that the claim limitation "selecting the sum of said predetermined first and second lengths in dependence on said pattern of marks and spaces" is shown by the sub-mark adjusting circuit 22 of Fig. 1. This is explained in the specification as filed on page 7, lines 25-30, where it states that the sub-mark adjusting circuit 22 individually and continuously chooses suitable values for lengths L1 and L2, which results in that the sum of the lengths L1 and L2 may continuously change and no longer needs to correspond to the channel bit length b (page 8, lines 25-27).

Enclosed herewith is a Substitute Specification in which the specification as filed has been amended in various places to correct typographical and grammatical errors, and to also add section headings. In addition, the specification as filed has been amended to add brief descriptions of Figs. 7, 8A and 8B, to add a description of Fig. 7, and to add references to Figs. 8A and 8B.

In support of the above, enclosed herewith is a copy of the specification as filed marked up with the above changes.

The undersigned attorney asserts that no new matter has been incorporated into the Substitute Specification.

The claims have been amended to more clearly define the invention as disclosed in the written description. In particular, claim 12 has been amended to place the preamble thereof in proper format, which was inadvertently omitted in Applicant's last Amendment.

Applicant believes that this application, containing claims 1-20, is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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